Contact: Tom Cook 406-444-1645 Release: Receipt

ART LOVERS TO RENDEZVOUS IN HELENA WITH GREAT ARTISTS ACROSS THE NATION

Montana art lovers won't want to miss the four-day, 32<sup>nd</sup> Western Rendezvous of Art in Helena Aug. 19-22 for a unique chance to meet with great artists from across the state and nation sponsored by the Montana Historical Society.

Rendezvous features outstanding contemporary art by 51 artists in the Northwest Rendezvous Group as well as four distinguished guest artists that begins with a barbeque at the Society and culminates in an exciting art sale.

"This is a great chance to meet and mingle with some of the nation's top artists and some savvy art collectors in a fun-filled atmosphere," said Sue Near, event coordinator for the Society. Proceeds benefit the Society's new art acquisition fund.

Special guests include Montana favorite Harley Brown, who will talk about his career that took off with a special art show at the Society, Abe Hays, founder of the Arizona West Galleries who will present "Sixty Years in the Game," and University of Montana art historian Rafael Chacon, who will talk about his research into paintings in the historic lodges at Glacier National Park. The Society currently is hosting the official centennial exhibit on Glacier's history.

One of the Rendezvous highlights is the artists Quick Draw at the historic Sieben Ranch near Helena. Although it is widely copied now, Rendezvous held the first Quick Draw auction in the nation and still does it best.

For more information or to register call 406-442-4263 or email <a href="westrdz@aol.com">westrdz@aol.com</a>. You can also go on line to <a href="www.westrendart.org">www.westrendart.org</a> to check the schedule and also view much of the art that will be at this year's event.